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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/037,411	10/24/2001	Patrick M. Cox	41698.1034	7733

7590 04/07/2004
Alex L. Yip
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New York, NY 10022

EXAMINER

HOOSAIN, ALLAN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2645

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/037,411

Applicant(s)

COX ET AL.

Examiner

Allan Hoosain

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 57, 59-60, 62-66, 68-69, 72-73, 75-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 57, 59, 60, 62-66, 68, 69, 72, 73, 75 and 76 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

FINAL DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 57,59-60,62-66,68-69,72-73,75-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by **Daudelin** (US 4,959,855).

As to Claims 57,59, with respect to Figures 3-5, **Daudelin** teaches a method for managing a call from a caller to an information assistance service, the method comprising:

receiving signals associated with the call which contain a telephone number indicating a local calling area, 30, associated with a communications device, 40, from which the call originates, an account which is associated with the telephone number being set up with the information assistance service (Figure 3, label 204), and which allows receipt of information assistance and one or more types of call to be made (Figures 1 and 2 and Col. 5, lines 38-42);

eliciting from the caller an information assistance request (Col. 6, lines 1-17);

searching a database not personal to the caller for results responsive to the information assistance request, the results including a listing (destination telephone number) (Col. 6, line 65 through Col. 7, line 6);

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determining that a connection is to be made from the local calling area to a second calling area outside the local calling area, the second calling area being indicated by the destination telephone number (Col. 7, lines 1-14);

determining whether the caller is authorized to have the connection made through the information assistance service based on the types of call allowed by the account (Col. 7, lines 11-18); and

making the connection when it is determined that the caller is authorized to have the connection made (Col. 7, lines 20-31).

As to Claim 60, **Daudelin** teaches the method of claim 57 wherein the information assistance service is provided by an operator (Col. 6, lines 47-49).

As to Claims 63,69, **Daudelin** teaches the method of claim 62 wherein the signals include an originating number automatic numbering identification (ANI) from which the calling telephone number is derived (Col. 5, lines 38-42).

As to Claims 68,72-73,75-76, with respect to Figures 1-5, **Daudelin** teaches a method of providing an information assistance service to a customer, comprising:

receiving signals in setting up a call from the customer through an inbound channel (Col. 5, lines 60-68);

based on the received signals, identifying a calling telephone number associated with a calling station from which the customer calls, the calling telephone number indicating a local

calling area, an account which is associated with the calling telephone number being set up with the information assistance service, and which allows receipt of information assistance and one or more types of call to be made (Col. 6, lines 38-59);

eliciting an information assistance request from the customer (Col. 6, lines 1-17);

in response to the information assistance request, searching a database not personal to the customer for a listing (destination telephone number) (Col. 6, line 65 through Col. 7, line 7);

determining that a connection is to be made from the local calling area to a second calling area outside the local calling area, the second calling area being indicated by the destination telephone number (Col. 7, lines 1-14) ;

determining whether the customer is authorized to have the connection made, based on the types of call allowed by the account (Col. 7, lines 11-18);

allocating an outbound channel to establish a connection to the destination telephone number when it is determined that the customer is authorized to have the connection made (Col. 7, lines 20-31);

dialing the destination telephone number over the outbound channel (Col. 7, lines 58-59);
and

connecting the inbound channel to the outbound channel (Col. 8, lines 54-61).

As to Claims 62, with respect to Figures 1-5, **Daudelin** teaches a method for managing a call from a caller to an information assistance service, the method comprising:

receiving signals associated with the call which contain a calling telephone number associated with a calling station, from which the call originates, an account which is associated

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with the calling telephone number being set up with the information assistance service, and which allows receipt of information assistance and one or more types of call to be made (Figures 1 and 2 and Col. 5, lines 38-42);

eliciting from the caller an information assistance request (Col. 6, lines 1-17);

in response to the information assistance request searching a database not personal to the caller for a destination telephone number (Col. 6, line 65 through Col. 7, line 5);

determining that a connection is to be made from a local calling area to a second calling area outside the local calling area based on a comparison of at least a portion of the calling telephone number with at least a portion of the destination number (Col. 7, lines 11-18);

determining whether the caller is authorized to have the connection made through the information assistance service based on the types of call allowed by the account (Col. 7, lines 11-18); and

connecting the calling station to the called station when it is determined that the caller is authorized to have the connection made (Col. 7, lines 20-32).

As to Claims 64-65, **Daudelin** teaches the method of claim 62 wherein the portion of the calling telephone number indicates local calling area, 30, and the portion of the destination telephone number indicates the second calling area, 32, (Figure 1).

As to Claim 66, **Daudelin** teaches the method of claim 57 wherein the information assistance service is provided by an operator (Col. 6, lines 27-30).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Examiner respectfully invites Applicants to contact Examiner to further discuss possible amendments for overcoming the prior art of record.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Padden et al. (US 4,979,206) teach directory assistance where customers speak commands for identifying directory listings.

Dowden et al. (US 5,163,083) teach operator assistance for setting up different calling services.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any response to this final action should be mailed to:

Box AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications; please mark "EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE")

Or:

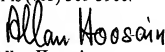
(703) 306-0377 (for customer service assistance)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121
Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to **Allan Hoosain** whose telephone number is (703) 305-4012. The
examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, **Fan Tsang**, can be reached on (703) 305-4895.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding
should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


Allan Hoosain
Primary Examiner
3/31/04